# BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Investigation on the Commission's Own Motion Regarding Innovative Utility Ratemaking Approaches that Promote Conservation and Efficiency Programs by Removing Disincentives that May Exist Under Current Ratemaking Policies

Docket No. 05-UI-114

# REQUEST TO INTERVENE OF THE CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD OF WISCONSIN, CLEAN WISCONSIN, AND RENEW WISCONSIN AND NOTICE OF APPEARANCE

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 227.44(2m) and Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.21, the Citizens

Utility Board of Wisconsin ("CUB"), Clean Wisconsin, and RENEW Wisconsin ("RENEW")

(collectively "Joint Public Intervenors" or "JPI") hereby file their requests to intervene as parties in the above-captioned matter. JPI's attorneys also file a Notice of Appearance.

#### I. STATEMENT OF INTEREST IN THE PROCEEDING.

#### A. CUB.

CUB has more than 9,000 members, primarily citizens of Wisconsin. CUB was originally created by the Wisconsin legislature under Chapter 72, Laws of 1979, to advocate on behalf of residential and other customers on utility issues. CUB subsequently reorganized and is currently a nonstock, nonprofit corporation organized and existing under Wis. Stat. ch. 181. CUB's purpose as stated in its bylaws is to:

1) ensure effective and democratic representation of residential, farm and small business utility customers before regulatory agencies, the legislature, the courts, and other public bodies; 2) advocate for reliable, affordable and sound utility service; 3) provide for consumer education on utility services.

CUB Bylaws, Article III. CUB intends that its advocacy benefit not just its own members but all residential ratepayers of the state.

CUB's members include numerous residential utility customers of Wisconsin's investor owned utilities that will be affected by decisions made in Docket No. 05-UI-114. Specifically, this docket will examine whether existing ratemaking policies create disincentives for investments in conservation and energy efficiency, and if so, what the appropriate approach is to remove those disincentives. Therefore, this docket may result in decisions that affect the affordability of utility service, as well as decisions that increase investments in conservation and energy efficiency that will improve the reliability of utility service. Because CUB's substantial interests will be affected by any Commission action in this docket, CUB requests that it be admitted as a party to this proceeding pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.21(1).

Alternatively, CUB should be granted full party status because its participation in the proceeding will promote the proper disposition of the issues to be determined and will not impede the timely completion of the docket. Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.21(2).

#### B. Clean Wisconsin.

Clean Wisconsin is a nonprofit organization that protects Wisconsin's clean water and air and advocates for clean energy by being an effective voice in the state legislature and by holding elected officials and corporations accountable. Founded in 1970 as Wisconsin's Environmental Decade, Clean Wisconsin exposes polluters, makes sure existing environmental laws are enforced, and educates citizens and businesses. On behalf of its 10,000 members and its coalition partners, Clean Wisconsin protects the special places that make Wisconsin a wonderful place to live, work and play. Thousands of Clean Wisconsin's members purchase electricity from Wisconsin's investor owned utilities.

Clean Wisconsin has a substantial interest in the proceeding because one of its goals is to promote conservation and energy efficiency programs throughout the state. Because Clean

Wisconsin's substantial interests will be affected by any Commission action in this docket, Clean Wisconsin requests that it be admitted as a party to this proceeding pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.21(1). Alternatively, Clean Wisconsin should be granted full party status because its participation in the proceeding will promote the proper disposition of the issues to be determined and will not impede the timely completion of the docket. Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.21(2).

## C. RENEW.

RENEW is a 501(c)(3) organization, headquartered in Madison, that promotes policies to increase the use of locally and regionally available renewable energy resources to meet the state's power needs. RENEW has 350 business and individual members, almost all of them in Wisconsin. As an advocate for renewable energy development since its inception in 1991, RENEW has been a full party intervenor in numerous Public Service Commission proceedings.

RENEW has a substantial interest in the proceeding because one of the organization's primary goals is to increase customer-sited renewable energy systems. Innovative ratemaking approaches that remove disincentives under current ratemaking policies are likely to accelerate the deployment of small-scale renewable energy systems. Because RENEW's substantial interests will be affected by any Commission action in this docket, RENEW requests that it be admitted as a party to this proceeding pursuant to Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.21(1).

Alternatively, RENEW should be granted full party status because its participation in the proceeding will promote the proper disposition of the issues to be determined and will not impede the timely completion of the docket. Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 2.21(2).

### II. NOTICE OF APPEARANCE.

Cullen Weston Pines & Bach LLP hereby files its Notice of Appearance on behalf of JPI in the above-captioned proceeding. All further documents and correspondence should be served on:

Curt F. Pawlisch Kira E. Loehr Cullen Weston Pines & Bach LLP 122 West Washington Avenue, Suite 900 Madison, WI 53703

Phone: (608) 251-0101 Fax: (608) 251-2883

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JPI further request that all documents and correspondence also be served on:

Dennis Dums Citizens Utility Board 16 North Carroll Street, Suite 530 Madison, WI 53703

Phone: (608) 251-3322 Fax: (608) 251-7609 Email: dums@wiscub.org

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Listing Mr. Dums, Ms. Nekola, and Mr. Vickerman on the service list would greatly assist JPI in monitoring the case and participating in any proceedings scheduled by the Commission.

### III. CONCLUSION.

For the aforementioned reasons, CUB, Clean Wisconsin, and RENEW respectfully request that the Commission grant their requests to intervene in the above-captioned proceeding.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2008.

Respectfully submitted,

**CULLEN WESTON PINES & BACH LLP** 

/s/ Curt F. Pawlisch

By:

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